

Amendments to the Specification

- Please replace paragraph indicated by number [0016] in the published application of the instant patent application (2006/0172828) with the following:

[0016] The present invention simplifies the stringing of the racquet by making it easier to thread the strings through the frame. If desired, opposite ends of the enlarged string holes may include guides to further assist in seating the strings in their proper location as they enter and leave the string holes.

- Please insert the following paragraph into the specification after the paragraph indicated by number [0040] in the published version of the application:

[0040.1] **FIGS. 27-30** show various configurations of grommets and grommet strips used for various shaped holes, both with and without grommet strips.

- Please insert the following paragraphs into the specification after the paragraph indicated by number [0066] in the published version of the application:

[0066.1] In a method for making a composite sports racquet frame according to the invention, a mold is provided having first and second mold plates which, when joined, define a mold cavity in the shape of a sports racquet. A first tube of a material suitable for forming a racquet frame,

such as a fiber-reinforced resin, is placed in the first mold plate. A second tube of such material is placed in the second mold plate. A plurality of pin plates, each having a plurality of pins which are preferably at least substantially parallel to one another, are secured to the first mold plate so that the pins lie on top of the first tube.

[0066.2] After coupling a compressed air source to each of the tubes, the mold plates are secured to one another so that the first and second tubes contact one another at least in the regions to either side of the pins. The mold is then heated, while at the same time pressurizing the tubes, to form a racquet frame in which the tubes are joined to one another at least in the regions adjacent to the pins.

[0066.3] Preferably, the tubes are made of a composite material having a component, such as epoxy resin or thermoplastic, which, when subjected to the heat and pressure of the mold, will flow. In this manner, during molding the contacting portions of the two tubes will fuse together to form a common, integral, internal wall.

[0066.4] After the molded frame has been removed from the mold plates, the pins are pulled out of the frame, the pins thereby forming string holes in the frame.

[0066.5] Preferably, the pin plates forming the string holes in the head portion of the racquet are disposed on the outside surface of the head portion, so that the pins project inwardly. The base of the pins, i.e., where the pin project from the pin plates, are contoured so that the string hole

openings formed by the pins along the outside surface of the racquet are rounded, thereby reducing the chance of string breakage.

[0066.6] Preferably, the tubes, when in the mold, alternately contact one another and a pin along the entire head portion of the frame. Preferably, the ends of the tube which will form the racquet handle portion are kept separated from one another during molding, by using a removable mold plate.

[0066.7] Also, preferably, the inner surface of the pin plates, from which said pins project, forms part of the mold cavity, e.g., to define a string groove extending along the outside of the head portion of the frame between string holes.